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[WHOLE No. 289.]

## *Military Academy.*

ANNUAL REPORT of the BOARD OF VISITERS  
of the

UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY.

JUNE, 1840.

WEST POINT, June 22, 1840.

To the Hon. JOEL R. POINSETT,

Secretary of War.

SIR.—The Board of Visitors assembled at this place agreeably to your invitation, hereby respectfully submit their report.

During our session we have endeavored to give faithful attention to the examination of the Cadets, by the Academic Staff, in the various departments of study prescribed by the rules of the Academy. Seven hours daily have been devoted by the Professors and Instructors to this duty. The examinations have satisfied the Board of the high attainments of those to whom the instruction of the Cadets is committed, and of their skill and ability in imparting the knowledge which they possess, and eliciting, encouraging, and leading onward, the talents of their pupils. Among the latter, there were several conspicuous instances of superior ability and successful industry. The examination, as a whole, was highly creditable to the Academy. A few cases there were, as in all large seminaries there must be, of decided failure. We have entire confidence, however, that the authorities of the Academy will not be wanting in faithfulness to the duty hence devolving on them.

At an early period of their session, the Board divided the several subjects requiring their attention into five departments, appointing a committee to give special attention to each respectively, and report thereon to the Board. The several committees having reported, and the reports been duly considered by the Board, and approved according to the results of such consideration, and other matters interesting to the Academy having been duly weighed, we proceed respectfully to report under the several heads above referred to. They are as follows:

Fiscal Concerns, and property.

Military Instruction.

Scientific Instruction.

Internal Police and Discipline.

Moral and Religious Instruction.

These several classes of subjects will now be taken up in order.

**FISCAL CONCERNS AND PROPERTY.**—The books and accounts of the disbursing officers have been examined, and such supplies furnished for the Institution as were on hand and pointed out, have been inspected. From the information thus obtained we are of opinion that those officers have paid strict attention to the regulations for their government, and that due diligence has been exercised, and proper care taken, to procure articles of good quality, and at reasonable prices.

All supplies are procured by the Quartermaster, under the direction of the superintendent, who is accountable for the funds with which they are purchased. The statement in the appendix, marked A, furnished by the quartermaster, will show the funds applicable to such objects, and the quarterly disbursements, within the last Academic year.

The Superintendent, the Academic and Military Staffs, and the Cadets, receive their pay and allowances from the paymaster. The statement in the appendix, marked B, shows the amount received and disbursed by that officer within the year 1839. There being no appropriation for 1840, a statement could

not be made for the last Academic year, as in the case of the quarter-master.

The duties of Treasurer being distinct from those of Paymaster, and relating only to the funds of the Cadets, he is accountable to the superintendent only for their performance. The accounts are so simple, and the details so minute, that a Cadet may, at any time, ascertain the exact state of his funds by an examination of the Treasurer's books, to which he has free access at stated hours. The Superintendent exercises a parental control over these funds, permitting only such expenditures as are necessary and proper, and directing the balances to be placed to the credit of the Cadets in a safe Institution, where they draw an interest at the rate of five per cent per annum.

The public property having been examined with the view of ascertaining its present condition, and the measures taken to preserve it, the following is the result:

1. *The Library.* Ample provision is made, by regulation, to insure the return of books taken from the library. The frequent use of some of the volumes has injured, and in some instances destroyed, their binding. This is the case with some of the rare and valuable works, and we respectfully recommend that measures be immediately taken to have them re-bound.

2. *Philosophical Apparatus.* This valuable collection is under the charge of the Professor, who has taken every proper precaution for its preservation. The instruments appear to be in perfect order, and may be used at any moment.

3. *Chemical Apparatus.* This valuable collection of Instruments is under the charge of the Professor of Chemistry, who, by taking every precaution for their preservation, keeps them in constant order for use.

4. *Models and other Apparatus in the Recitation Rooms.* These appear in good order and well preserved.

5. *Engine and Apparatus, for extinguishing fires.* These are new and in good order, and require no other remark than a recommendation that a floor be added to the building in which they are kept.

6. *Laboratory and Work shops.* These, upon examination, were found in good order and condition.

7. *Buildings.* The roofs of some of the houses leak and require repair. The floors of the barracks occupied by the Cadets are made of soft pine of an inferior quality, and are much worn. The propriety of superseding these buildings by others more suitable is considered in another part of the report. If they are allowed to remain for any length of time, they should be furnished with new floors of a better material.

The buildings erected and completed since the report of the last Board of Visitors, including work shops and stables, appear to have been well constructed and admirably adapted to the purposes for which they were intended.

The Board are much pleased with the road recently completed from the wharf at the landing to the plain on which the principal buildings stand. Such a road was much required, as all must know who have visited West Point previously to its construction. The grade does not exceed 3° 20', and the whole appears to have been done in the best manner.

By a letter from the cashier of the Mechanics Bank, New York, it appears that the balance to the credit of the Superintendent in that bank is greater than the amount due from him to the United States, according to the statement furnished. The difference arises from checks issued that have not been presented for payment.

**MILITARY INSTRUCTION.—Infantry Tactics.** To exhibit the proficiency of the Cadets in infantry tactics, they were formed into four companies of about fifty each, and paraded in battalion order. From this order they were taken through many of the manœuvres in the school of the battalion in strict conformity with the rules and principles laid down in the Infantry tactics. The first class, about forty in number, subsequently evinced, by drawings, on the black board, and explanations, a satisfactory knowledge of the theory. This class acquitted themselves, in both practice and theory, to their own credit, and that of their instructors.

The advancement of the second, third, and fourth classes was shown in the Light Infantry exercise, or drill as skirmishers. It may be noticed that this is not a system, but rather a supplement to the established Infantry tactics.

**Horsemanship and the Sword Exercise.** This branch of military instruction has been but recently introduced in this Academy. The performance of the first class only was witnessed. In general they were found to sit well on their horses, and some of them may be regarded as good riders. Considerable advancement was also shown in the Sword Exercise. This branch of instruction, necessary to complete the education of a military man, is especially essential for those who may be ultimately commissioned in the corps of Dragoons.

**Artillery Tactics.**—Five months in the year the first class are instructed, theoretically and practically, in tactics, pyrotechny, and the exercise of the field battery, and the duties of the laboratory, and the use of cannons, howitzers, and mortars. Every Cadet is required to prepare with his own hands, though it be but a small quantity, almost every kind of fixed ammunition used in war. The practice in all these things was quite satisfactory.

A new system of artillery tactics, having been adopted by the Secretary of War, is now about to take the place of that hitherto in use at this Academy.

By the use of horses recently introduced, the manœuvres of the field battery are performed with much greater rapidity than when the pieces were dragged by hand.

A few models have been furnished within the last year for the purpose of early instruction in the management and use of artillery. By a small addition, the instructor can more readily explain, in the lecture room the various arms and machines now used in war, much it is believed, to the advantage of his class. The Board recommend the addition of such models as may be needed for this purpose.

To complete the instruction in this department, a casement battery for three or four heavy guns, would, it is thought, be of advantage. A barbette battery, also, for a like number of guns, is recommended. Without these, a graduate must necessarily leave the Academy with only a theoretical knowledge of either.

**SCIENTIFIC INSTRUCTION.**—Our investigations under this head have been highly gratifying. The progress made by the Cadets in every department shows the attention of the professors and teachers to their duties; and all our opportunities of judgment, which have been various and frequent, authorise the expression of a high opinion of their scientific and literary character.

The books, instruments, &c. of the Institution seem adequate to nearly all its present wants, whilst a continuance of that governmental munificence which has always existed, is recommended, to furnish the funds necessary for the purchase of such others as the advancing intelligence of the age may justify or require.

The amount of study required of the Cadets is perhaps as much as the average powers of the mind at that age will justify. The instruction they receive liberal and profound, and peculiarly adapted to the pursuit in after life.

In the department of the Constitutional Law of the United States, the Board respectfully recommend that the Constitution of the United States be the only textbook used.

Further than this we see no important alteration or improvement that could be advantageously made at present in the course of instruction, except, perhaps, in relation to a few of the applicants for entrance. The standard of qualification for admission, although considered low by some, is certainly so high as to preclude many who perhaps would otherwise present very strong claims for admission. Among the inhabitants of some portion of our extensive territory the blessings of the lowest grade of common school education are with difficulty obtained. Yet as citizens of a common country they are entitled to an equal participation in the advantages resulting from this or any other institution appertaining to the General Government; and any standard of qualification so high as to preclude them, might be properly considered onerous and unjust. Public interest and private benevolence justify the attempt to diffuse education and intelligence every where, and plead equally strong against any unnecessarily rigid regulations in this case. This Board, however, will not press the subject in all its bearings, but will only suggest the propriety of a regulation that those who, on application and examination in June, are found not sufficiently advanced to receive admission, but who evince a capacity to justify the expectation of their reaching the required standard, may remain at the institution, and under regular daily instruction, during the term of the encampment of the cadets, and permitted to undergo another examination for admission in September.

It is a gratifying evidence of the desire of the Cadets to improve their leisure time, that they have had, for several years, a voluntary association, denominated the Dialectic Society, for the purpose of mental improvement in composition, debate, and general literature. The Board believe the society to be well sustained, and alike creditable and useful to the Cadets.

#### *Internal Police and Discipline.*

The regulations established for the organization and government of the academy have been examined with attention, and detailed information in relation to them been received from the Superintendent. These regulations are deemed suitable and adequate, and appear to be enforced with judgment and impartiality, and to have produced satisfactory results.

The Board has been forcibly struck with the insufficiency and unfitness of the barracks occupied by the Cadets. So insufficient are they in point of accommodation, that some of the rooms contain six persons; many of them contain four, and none less than two. This arrangement, under existing circumstances, is unavoidable. It is believed that in no other seminary of instruction in our country can be found an arrangement so inadequate and exceptionable. A proper attention to the health of the cadets, to their personal comforts, and to the advantageous prosecution of their studies, manifestly requires that additional accommodations be provided. Moreover, owing to the defective construction of these buildings, ventilation is obstructed, so that in some of the rooms the air is confined and detrimental. These buildings, too, are very much out of repair, and to render them at all habitable, a large expenditure would, in a very short time, be necessary. The Board, therefore, is unanimously of opinion that new barracks and mess rooms for the cadets are required; and earnestly recommends that such be erected at as early a period as practicable.

The location of the hospital, its arrangements, and condition, are satisfactory. The building, though small, is without doubt adequate to the probable wants of the post, especially when more healthy ac-



commodations for the cadets shall have been provided.

The Board recommends that suitable arrangements be made to furnish the cadets with facilities for swimming or bathing at all seasons of the year.

#### *Moral and Religious Instruction.*

There being in the community a very natural and desirable solicitude extensively prevailing, respecting the influence of the Academy on the religious and moral character and habits of the young men sent thither for their education, the Board has not failed to direct serious attention to this point. The fact, however, of there having recently been held at the academy a Court of Inquiry, specially ordered with a view to this particular subject, has necessarily circumscribed the duties of the Board in this line. It is understood that the investigations of the Court were very thorough and searching, and included the receiving of ample testimony respecting the present moral condition of the Academy, the sufficiency of its moral instruction and system of discipline, and the fidelity with which that system is administered. As the results of this inquiry are not yet known to the Board, we think that it would be obviously premature to express any opinion on the several points therein included; and respectfully refer to such results, when communicated, as obtained under much greater advantages for the formation of a full and accurate judgment, than any possessed by this Board. Our silence, however, will not be regarded as implying the cherishing of any opinion on the points which have thus been committed to special investigation by another tribunal.

It gives the Board much pleasure, however, to refer to the high gratification with which its members have observed the solicitude of the Superintendent, and the other members of the Academic Staff, on the subject of the moral character and influence of the Academy, and their desire to avail themselves of all the means in their power for placing them on the most satisfactory footing, and such as will merit the full confidence of the community. Should the recent investigation indicate the propriety of any change in the system of religious and moral instruction and discipline, we are confident that the academic authorities will be prompt and faithful in attention to it.

A former Board of Visitors called the attention of the Department of War to the subject of a severance between the Chaplaincy and the professorship of Ethics, in which department are also included Political Science, History, Grammar, Rhetoric, and Geography. The union of instruction in these several branches with the duties of chaplain is certainly very onerous. It is so much so, that the Board perceive that it has been found necessary to assign a portion of them to assistant instructors, although no provision has been made for their remuneration. We would respectfully express the opinion that a faithful, devout, and experienced pastor, who commands high respect for his learning and talents, and reverence and affection for his personal virtues, who has the faculty of making religious services and instruction interesting to the Cadets, whose knowledge of the world, and christian judgment and discretion in improving it, invest his daily intercourse with pleasure and profit to those around him, and who is thus prepared to extend paternal care and counsel to the young men—that such an one, devoted to pastoral supervision and duty, with no other academic instruction devolving on him than in the branches of Ethics, Grammar, and Rhetoric, would exert a moral influence over the Cadets, of invaluable benefit in every department of usefulness to which they may be called by their country or by society.

In conformity with this suggestion, the Board respectfully recommend that the other branches now devolving on the Professor of Ethics be assigned to an Assistant Professor, to be placed on the same footing

as to emolument, &c. as the other Assistant Professors.

The improvement of the Cadets' barracks, suggested in another part of this report, is obviously intimately connected with due attention to their morals.

It appears to the Board that some attention ought to be paid to the principles and past habits of the large number of young men who are yearly added to the Academy. Perhaps there is no source more fraught with danger to its moral character and influence than this constant accession of youths from sixteen to twenty-one years of age, of whom there is no required certainty as to the moral restraint or instruction of which they may have been the subjects, or the habits which they may have formed. The Board respectfully but earnestly recommend that there be required, among the qualifications for entrance, in the case of each individual, satisfactory evidence of his possessing good moral principles, and being free from vicious or immoral practices.

In reference generally to this important department of their inquiries, the Board respectfully recommend to all concerned a constant, jealous watchfulness over the moral character and influence of the academy, as demanded by due attention to the respectability and usefulness of its members, and by the just and anxious expectations of the community.

In conclusion, the Board of Visitors would express their conviction of the importance of this institution to our country, and the sincere hope that the obvious desire and endeavor of all concerned in its management to commend it to public confidence and regard, will be duly appreciated and thoroughly successful.

All of which is submitted, by

Yours, very respectfully,

BENJ. T. ONDERDONK, N. Y., *President.*

JOS. DESHA, Kentucky.

AMOS LANE, Indiana.

R. H. GARDINER, Maine.

JAMES BIDDLE, U. S. Navy.

WM. A. HAYES, Maine.

ISAAC F. RIDFIELD, Vermont.

SAMUEL A. TURNER, Massachusetts.

N. TOWSON, Brevet Brig. Gen. U. S. A.

WM. DAVENPORT, Col. U. S. A.

TH. LAWSON, U. S. A.

DANIEL READ, Ohio, *Secretary of the Board.*

WM. COOK, New Jersey.

RICHARD P. THOMPSON, New Jersey.

I accord fully in the above report, but beg leave, respectfully, to express a doubt of there being any grant of power under the constitution of the United States for the establishment of the institution.

JESSE BEENE, Alabama.

#### REPORT OF THE MINORITY OF THE BOARD OF VISITERS AT WEST POINT, 25TH JUNE, 1840.

To the Hon. J. R. POINSETT,

*Secretary of War:*

The undersigned, differing from the majority of the Board of Visitors to West Point, in many views which they deem of vital importance to the public, and the welfare of the institution, feel called on to submit to your consideration a separate report.

The number of Cadets in the institution, we find, subject to slight variations, ranging from two hundred to two hundred and fifty. The age at which they enter under present regulations is not less than sixteen years; the term of service required is eight years, four of which are spent in the institution, in the prosecution of their studies.

The act for the establishment of the Academy passed in 1802, and at the origin only ten Cadets were admitted for instruction; but the number gradually increased to fifty. In 1812 the number was further increased to two hundred and fifty, to correspond with the increase of our military establishment. The country was then threatened with war with one of

the most powerful nations of the earth; and those who conducted public affairs would have been recreant to their trust had they failed to avail themselves of every means likely to aid in the impending struggle. That struggle came, and we passed triumphantly through it. It would perhaps be unjust to the institution, then still almost in its infancy, to hold it responsible because few of the bright names of that era had graced its academic rolls.

After the war closed, the military establishment of the country was reduced, but no corresponding change has taken place in the number of Cadets.

For many years, perhaps since the close of the last war, the officers of the army, with but few exceptions, have been selected from the graduates of West Point. They have enjoyed an almost exclusive right of preference and promotion; and when, as in the exceptions alluded to, a citizen was occasionally appointed, it became a subject of serious objection and complaint with the graduates.

An examination into the history of the institution shows that it has received a most liberal support from the representatives of the people in Congress, and the fostering care of each successive administration. Its clear annual expense to the country is over two hundred thousand dollars, not including the pay of officers acting as assistant professors. Has the good resulting from it requited this bounty? We will proceed to examine this question.

The number of youths who annually enter this institution will average about one hundred and twenty, and the number who graduate rarely exceeds forty. We do not imagine that in this whole country there is a literary institution in which two-thirds of the whole class will be found deficient. Why is this? Does it proceed from bad management in the Academic Staff, or is it the unsuitable character of the material furnished them? A careful investigation authorises us to exculpate the former, whilst we have no hesitation in attributing the chief agency to the latter cause.

No special provision seems to have been made at the organization of the institution in 1802, nor at any subsequent period, for the selection of Cadets, because at that time, and even up to 1812, they were viewed as officers of the army, occupying a grade lower than 2d Lieutenant. They were then selected and appointed the appropriate organs of the government. Since then, but at what time exactly the undersigned are not prepared to say, the mode of selecting was changed, and we find for some years past what still exists, that these appointments proceed almost exclusively from the recommendations of members of Congress. That is, each member of Congress has the privilege of recommending from time to time, as vacancies occur, a youth from his district, and such recommendation secures his appointment.

Hence it must be apparent that in most instances the selections for West Point will be made from the sons of those whose influence will be felt at elections, without reference to their military aptitudes; while youths of intellect, military spirit and bearing, but destitute of political influence, will be passed over. The importance of removing this pernicious source of favoritism is obvious. In a year or two after entering the institution, many of the youths find that they have mistaken their talents, and that they are not adapted to the mathematical studies and mental training necessary to distinction at West Point. They finally resign or are dismissed, and most frequently become a burthen to their friends, and useless to themselves and society. But the evil does not end here. Of the forty who pass through the institution and graduate at the expense of the public, how many devote their energies and peril their lives in defence of their country? During the period of panic, while the Seminoles were butchering our fellow citizens in Florida, the graduates of West Point in large numbers resigned their commissions. Having received an ed-

ucation from the country which enabled them to command a salary of a few more dollars annually in civil life than that paid for defending the lives and property of our people at the post of danger, they hesitated not to embrace it; and in this exigency, the government had to seek from the ranks and the plough, men of talents and military spirit to supply their places.

When we compare the spirit and patriotism of the ancient American soldier with the resignations which have taken place since the commencement of the Seminole hostilities, the contrast is humiliating. It is the duty of the statesman and patriot to inquire into the causes and to provide the remedy.

Although the parent or guardian is required to pledge himself that the youth shall serve the country eight years, no penalty is attached, and no means devised to transfer that pledge to the Cadet when he shall have arrived at the age at which he is responsible legally for his own acts. The consequence is, that the public have begun to consider this promise as a dead letter; youths are sent here as to literary institutions, for instruction, and after examination feel little moral or legal restraint against the acceptance of any civil employment presenting superior pecuniary inducements. Though called upon to speak thus freely on this point, justice to the public requires us to express the belief that they are not aware of the injury they do to the country and that important part of its defence, the army. We cannot believe that they are aware that their sons or wards, on entering West Point, become soldiers in the regular army—that although respected as subordinate officers, they accept the bounty of the government in the pay and instruction which they receive, and that they are, or should be, bound to fulfil, to the letter, the stipulations of the contract. We do not believe that this, the true state of the case, is kept properly before the public. An honorable man would not pledge himself for the future course of his son or ward if he believed that pledge any thing else than a mere form, when he knew that it might be set aside by the youth, either from his inaptitude or indisposition to fulfil it. The parent or guardian makes what appears to him, no doubt, a mere formal pledge, sends the youth to West Point, and indulges in the anticipation of seeing him return to his home and his friends an engineer and scholar, and well qualified to fill important and lucrative stations in civil life.

Here we see the defects of the system developing themselves again. Of the forty who may have succeeded, not more than one-fourth, perhaps, are adapted to the pursuits for which they were ostensibly educated.

For more than twenty years the average number of graduates will perhaps exceed forty annually, or a gross sum of eight hundred during the whole period. With these, and the officers retained in service at the reduction after the war with Great Britain, it would be reasonable to infer that our army must be kept sufficiently well officered, at all times and places; and yet what is the fact? Such has been the tendency to resignation, that during the present Seminole hostilities, there has often been such a scarcity of officers, that second lieutenants have had to assume the command of companies. The inaptitude of many of the graduates of West Point for military life, is strikingly illustrated by the resignation of one hundred and seventeen officers of the regular army, during the first year of this war, and the annual average resignation since, of about thirty, or three-fourths of the number added yearly by the Academy.

It is unnecessary to comment on the disastrous condition of the country, when she finds the officers who at an immense expense, she had educated to serve her in time of war, thus resigning in the face of an enemy. It is, perhaps, neither our duty nor our right, to inquire into the motives for these resignations; but we feel that we could not have discharged the duties you



have assigned us, were we to fail to inquire whether they had any connection with that institution in which these officers received their military education.

It has been urged by many of the advocates of the present plan of instruction at West Point, that though it may fail to furnish the country with a competent and accomplished military man in every graduate, still the public is amply compensated, by the number of skillful engineers which it supplies for other useful purposes.

We will not hesitate to say, that the course of instruction is probably well calculated to impart a knowledge of civil engineering, but we repudiate the idea, that this institution was created for such purposes; and the plea set up in its defence shows that there has been a wide departure from the principles upon which it was organized.

We can appeal to every law in relation to it as evidence, that it is a military post selected as an appropriate place to teach the science of war, and therefore should not be perverted to other purposes. But let us waive this indubitable testimony, and trace these doctrines to their results. It is, we believe, admitted by a majority of the people of this country, that the federal agency at Washington has, under the constitution, no power to undertake a system of internal improvements. We presume that a bill to furnish the iron rails for a road between any two of the most important points in the Union, would scarcely receive a respectable minority vote in either house of Congress at this time. If then the United States cannot constitutionally provide the material for, or construct the work itself, by what authority can it go a step further and extend the public treasure in educating men, to enable them to exercise the proper skill in expending the funds of private individuals or corporations upon similar objects?

Under the head of Constitutional Law, we found the most latitudinarian doctrines taught at West Point. Kent's Lectures and Bayard's Exposition, were the only text books presented to the Cadets as in accordance with the constitution of the United States.

In the important struggle of 1798-9, the principles taught in these text books were distinctly repudiated by the people; yet we now find the constitution of the United States so construed at this institution, that its powers extend to the construction of works of internal improvement, the protection of any branch of industry or knowledge, the establishment of a national bank, or whatever Congress may deem conducive to the general welfare; in fine, that it is the sole judge of the extent of its own power. It is unnecessary to dilate on the fatal effects of these doctrines if carried out by the commanders of our army, and the various incorporated companies now to be found in every State of the Union, controlling to an alarming extent, the labor, prosperity and political power of the people. The Cadet is first taught to believe he will accomplish the purpose for which he entered the academy by becoming an accomplished engineer; and then follows the next lesson as taught in Bayard and Kent, that to concentrate in the hands of the federal agency at Washington, power over every subject supposed to be conducive to the general welfare, is the true interpretation of the constitution. From these principles, the transition is easy and natural, to the belief that the central government should engage in schemes of internal improvement commensurate with its greatness, and that the graduate of West Point should have the exclusive right of employment therein.

To recapitulate: it appears that this institution has been in operation on its present enlarged plan twenty-eight years; that the annual average number of graduates has been about forty, at an expense of two hundred thousand dollars; and now it fails to furnish officers for our small standing army.

The remedies which the undersigned would respectfully suggest for these evils, are the following:

First. The mode of appointment should be so

changed as to take the power of selection and nomination absolutely from the reach of Congressional influence. No appointment should be made, which had the semblance of favoritism. The volunteer companies of the States and Territories should have the selection of the young men to be educated at West Point; and those companies should be recognized as preparatory schools for the military instruction of applicants for the army of the United States. By this change, the public mind would become gradually awakened to the importance of a general military organization; and the spirit of enterprise characteristic of the American soldier, in the early days of our history, would be gradually revived.

But from the fact readily admitted, that few volunteer companies are found beyond the cities and villages, a more general organization of the arms-bearing population ought perhaps to be selected as the basis of appointment. The institution would then be a direct emanation from such population; and the object for which it was organized can be alone accomplished by placing it on so firm a foundation.

In the event of war, the brunt of the conflict will be sustained, not by the mercenaries bought to keep up the show of an army, but by the great mass of the citizen soldiery of the country. They should therefore control the selection of those who at their expense are to be taught to defend the country, and to superintend the fighting of her battles. This mode of selection and appointment will not only bring forward the best materials which the country affords for instruction at West Point; but it will react on the volunteer companies and militia, and revive, as before observed, the energy, spirit, and enterprise of the American soldier.

By transferring the nomination of Cadets to West Point, to the military organization of the States, a new aspect will be given to the institution. It will no longer be viewed by the mass of the people as a great eleemosynary school for the education of the aristocracy or of political favorites; but as a military post where young men destined for the defence of their country's rights and liberties, shall receive that instruction which will qualify them in the best manner, to perform so important a duty.

This change will subserve another important purpose; it will create a connecting link between the militia and regular army, give a systematic and homogeneous character to the whole military organization of the country.

Secondly. We would recommend a corresponding change in the age of admission, so that none should be admitted under the age of eighteen years. Many important objects would be gained by this alteration. The applicant will have arrived at an age at which he can assume the responsibilities of a contract to serve his country as a soldier. All intermediate agencies of parents or guardians will be unnecessary, and the government will have power to compel the recipients of its favor to perform their portion of the obligation; and the number of graduates, instead of forty, will be increased to nearly the whole number of Cadets. The military spirit and aptitudes necessary to secure the nomination, added to the more mature age, will afford greatly increased assurance that the cadets will enter the army with all the ardor and determination of a soldier.

Thirdly. We would recommend a change in the course of instruction, adapted to the change in the character of the material. Attention to the intellectual manifestations of the cadets, and an adaptation of the course of instruction suitable to a full development of their aptitudes should be regarded. Instead of attempting to impart a profound knowledge of the exact sciences to all, those only who evince a peculiar fitness for such studies should be trained to the utmost limits of their capacity; while those in whom the martial spirit predominates, should not with their ripening years have their ardor quenched by the cold

(Concluded on page 39.)

## A.

*Statement of Disbursements on account of the United States Military Academy from June 30th, 1839, to June 12th, 1840, by Major Richard Delafield of the Corps of Engineers, and Superintendent of the Military Academy.*

Heads of Appropriation.	Remain'g un- expended on 30th of June 1839.	Additions to the preced- ing balances as per mar- gin.	Expended in the 3d qr. of 1839.	Expended in the 4th qr. of 1839.	Expended in the 1st qr. of 1840.	Expended from 31st Mar. to 12th June, 1840.	Remaining unexpended 12th of June, 1840.
For fuel, forage, stationery, printing, transportation and postage - - -	\$17,140 80	\$125 65	\$4,209 53	\$6,789 10	\$3,470 70	181 52	2,615 59
For repairs and improve- ments - - -	2,525 76	219 68	1,673 29	624 03	4 43	98 78	344 91
For the department of Phi- losophy - - -	962 76	643 28	190 71	29 33	173 69	376 51	830 80
For the department of En- gineering - - -	3,025 43	-	217 84	259 73	198 68	-	2,349 83
For the departm't of Draw- ing, Chemistry, and Ma- thematics - - -	119 89	-	119 89	-	-	-	-
For the department of Ar- tillery - - -	80 47	-	-	80 47	-	-	-
For the increase and ex- pense of the Library -	372 69	*66 60	334 55	34 86	-	30 16	39 72
For miscellaneous and inci- dental expenses - -	515 41	-	135 62	264 09	39 43	-	76 27
For Mineralogy and the Sword Exercise - -	993 15	-	185 13	603 49	188 98	1 75	13 80
For the acting Professor of Chemistry - - -	45 84	-	-	-	-	-	45 84
For the Ass't Professor of Chemistry - - -	300 00	-	-	-	-	-	300 00
For the public Store House -	364 43	-	353 55	10 88	-	-	-
For the Work Shops and Yards - - -	1,133 97	-	1,133 97	-	-	-	-
For the pay of the Adju- tant's and Quartermas- ter's Clerks - - -	475 00	-	237 50	237 50	-	-	-
For the printing and bind- ing Military Academy Regulations - - -	360 00	-	-	356 04	-	-	3 96
For the buildings for the Library, Engineering, Philosophical, and Che- mical department -	37,568 79	-	10,150 98	10,025 96	2,486 09	3,979 67	10,926 09
For defraying the expenses of the Board of Visitors -	1,060 44	-	1,060 44	-	-	-	-
For the department of Ma- thematics - - -	97 54	-	38 42	-	12 09	7 00	40 03
For the departm't of Draw- ing - - -	285 00	-	161 16	109 85	2 06	-	11 93
For the department of Che- mistry - - -	827 50	-	62 62	500 46	13 80	50 00	200 62
For the Reservoir - - -	3,118 00	-	-	-	2,740 45	-	377 55
	\$71,372 92	\$1,055 21	\$20,265 20	\$19,925 79	\$9,334 80	\$4,725 40	\$18,176 94

**REMARKS.**—The balances of the appropriations which follow, represented to be remaining on the 30th of June, 1839, are now exhibited as augmented by these additions, viz:

**Fuel, forage, stationery, &c.**—Received for coal—see Maj. Delafield's acct. current 1st qr. 1839, \$57 40  
And account current 3d and 2d, 1839, 68 25

\$125 65

**Department of Philosophy.**—Received from Captain Talcott by Lt. Col. De Russy—see his account cur-  
rent 1st qr., 1837, \$643 28

This sum forms part of the \$3,975 92 Cr. to Gov-  
ernment as received from Col. De Russy in Major  
Delafield's account current 4th quarter 1839.

**Repairs and improvements.**—Received from sundry  
persons for materials charged as an expenditure to this  
appropriation—see acct. current 4th qr., 1839, \$94 56  
Received from the sale of two oxen, 125 12

\$219 68

\* **Library.**—Received from Lt. Col. De Russy on  
account of the Library, \$66 60.

H. SWARTWOUT,  
1st Lieut. 3d Infantry, Quartermaster Military Academy.



process of mathematical demonstrations, nor the minute investigation of scientific studies.

The undersigned cannot close this report without availing themselves of the occasion to express the high opinion they entertain of the talents, industry, and gentlemanly bearing of the Professors and their assistants; and nothing herein stated is intended to

imply censure or the slightest want of confidence in any of the Academic Staff.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

JACOB MEDARY, Jr., of Ohio.

H. KING, Missouri.

JAMES HAGAN, Mississippi.

LEIGH READ, Florida.

B.

*Receipts and Expenditures on account of the Pay, Subsistence, &c. of the Military Academy, from the 1st January, 1839, to 31st December, 1839.*

To amount expended on account of the pay, &c. of the officers, professors, cadets, &c. for the months of January and February, 1839 - - - - -	\$17,405 23	Feb. 7, 1839. By balance on hand from last payment - - - - -	\$3,890 37
Balance unexpended for January and February, 1839 - - - - -	5,124 14	20. By this amount received on acct. of the Military Academy for January and February, 1839 - - - - -	13,649 00
	22,529 37		22,529 37
To amount expended on account of the pay, &c. of the officers, professors, cadets, &c. for the months of March and April, 1839 - - - - -	17,725 31	Ap. 13. By balance on hand from last payment - - - - -	5,124 14
Balance unexpended for March and April, 1839 - - - - -	2,398 83	26. By this amount received on account of the Military Academy for March and April, 1839 - - - - -	15,000 00
	20,124 14		20,124 14
To amount expended on account of the pay, &c. of the officers, professors, cadets, &c. for the months of May and June, 1839 - - - - -	16,410 65	June 8. Balance on hand from last payment - - - - -	2,398 83
Balance unexpended for May and June, 1839 - - - - -	4,688 18	17. By this amount received on account of the Military Academy for May and June, 1839 - - - - -	18,700 00
	21,098 83		21,098 83
To amount expended on account of the pay, &c. of the officers, professors, cadets, &c. for the months of July and August, 1839 - - - - -	18,422 89	Aug. 12. Balance on hand from last payment - - - - -	4,688 18
Balance unexpended for July and August, 1839 - - - - -	3,065 29	26. By this amount received on account of the Military Academy for July and August, 1839 - - - - -	16,800 00
	21,488 18		21,488 18
To amount expended on account of the pay, &c. of the officers, professors, cadets, &c. for the months of September and October, 1839 - - - - -	18,151 81	Oct. 17. Balance on hand from last payment - - - - -	3,065 29
Balance unexpended for September and October, 1839 - - - - -	9,213 48	27. By this amount received on account of the Military Academy for September and October, 1839 - - - - -	24,300 00
	27,365 29		27,365 29
To amount expended on account of the pay, &c. of the officers, professors, cadets, &c. for the months of November and December, 1839 - - - - -	18,011 83	Dec. 16. Balance on hand from last payment - - - - -	9,213 48
Balance unexpended for November and December, 1839 - - - - -	10,501 65	27. By this amount received on account of the Military Academy for November and Dec'r, 1839 - - - - -	19,300 00
	28,513 48		28,513 48
Total amount expended for the year 1839	106,127 72	Total amount received for the year 1839	116,629 37
Balance unexpended for the year 1839	10,501 65		116,629 37
	116,629 37		

The unexpended balance on the 31st December, of \$10,501 65, includes the sum of \$7,500 advanced on account of subsistence, for the purpose of procuring supplies for the cadets' commons for the winter months, before the close of the year.

The total amount of the balance for the year 1839, has been expended and accounted for during the present year.

THOS. J. LESLIE,

Paymaster U. S. Army, and Treasurer U. S. Military Academy.

United States MILITARY ACADEMY, 12th June, 1840.

## WASHINGTON CITY, THURSDAY,.....JULY 16, 1840.

To CORRESPONDENTS.—The conclusion of "A visit to Sam Jones's Camp," and "Stanzas, by Maria del Occidente," are on file for early insertion. "Canard" shall appear next week. "Notes and Reminiscences, No. 3," and "Remarks on Cooper's Naval History," are unavoidably deferred.

It always affords us pleasure to publish acknowledgments like the following, from whichever side they may emanate—a pleasure which is alloyed only by the regret that a seafaring life is subject to such vicissitudes as often to need a helping hand. The reply of Commo. SHUBRICK is characteristic of the true sailor, and none know more than sailors how to feel for others who are in need of assistance, often to the rescuing of life itself.

U. S. FRIGATE MACEDONIAN,  
Pensacola Bay, 7th July, 1840.

SIR: On the 2d day of May last, at night, the English merchant ship Sherbrook, mistaking Pensacola light for that of Mobile, ran ashore near the former, after beating over a sand bank on which were only eight feet water, the ship drawing twelve feet. As soon as her situation was made known to me, I sent acting Master MAFFIT, of this ship, and acting Master DECATUR, of the Warren, to her assistance. These two gentlemen, with about fifty men, succeeded, after arduous efforts for four days, in getting the Sherbrook off, with little injury, and saving her from total wreck.

I enclose a copy of a communication from H. B. M. Vice Consul to me, on the subject, and my answer, and have the honor to be,

Very respectfully, your ob't serv't,

W. BRANFORD SHUBRICK.

Hon. J. K. PAULDING, *Secretary of the Navy.*

Washington, D. C.

BRITISH CONSULATE,  
Pensacola, 9th May, 1840.

SIR: H. H. O'Brien, master of the British ship Sherbrook, having made his report to me of the powerful, continuous, and efficacious assistance that you was pleased to render him in getting that ship afloat, from the place (abreast of the light house) where she was stranded on the morning of the 3d inst., the agreeable duty devolves on me of imparting the information in detail to Her Majesty's Minister Plenipotentiary at Washington.

I will also do myself the honor of being the medium of transmission of the same interesting information to the committee at Lloyds.

I have the honor to be, with distinguished consideration, your most obedient, humble servant,

JOHN INNERARITY,

H. B. M. V. Consul.

Commodore W. B. SHUBRICK,

*Commanding the U. S. naval forces in the Gulf of Mexico and West Indies.*

U. S. FRIGATE MACEDONIAN,  
Pensacola Bay, 25th June, 1840.

SIR: On my arrival here a few days since, I had the honor to receive your communication of the 9th ultimo, on the subject of the assistance rendered by my order to the British ship Sherbrook, by which she was released from a very perilous situation.

It is the duty of every officer, situated as I am, to render assistance to ships of any nation that may require it; but this duty is made more imperative with

respect to British ships, by the frequent instances in which important aid has been given by officers of Her Britannic Majesty's navy to American vessels; and while I regret the misfortune of the Sherbrook, it is a source of satisfaction to me that it has been in my power to do an act of kindness to persons belonging to a nation whose seamen are always so ready to succor the distressed.

I have the honor to be, with high consideration,  
Your ob't servant,

W. BRANFORD SHUBRICK.

J. INNERARITY, Esq., H. B. M. V. Consul,  
Pensacola.

### ARRIVALS AT WASHINGTON.

July 9—Surgeon A N McLaren, army,	Fuller's
Col S Thayer, Engineer Corps,	Gadsby's
Capt W C DeHart, 2d art'y,	Mrs Brereton's
Ass't Sur. J S Griffin, army,	Fuller's
Lieut L A Armistead, 6th inf'y,	Brown's
Captain D S Miles, A Q M,	do
Lieut H L Scott, 4th inf'y,	Gadsby's
11—Capt G J Rains, 7th inf'y,	Polk's
14—Ass't Sur. W W Hoxton, army,	Alexandria
Lieut P Lugenbeel,	Fuller's
Colonel T Cross, A Q M G.,	F street
Lieut W Grandin, 4th inf'y,	Gadsby's

### LETTERS ADVERTISED.

WASHINGTON, July 15, 1840.

ARMY.—Lieut A P Allen, Capt M M Clark, Captain C Graham, Capt W B Guion 3, Lieut J Monroe, Lt R McLane, Capt J McClellan, Captain J A Phillips, Lieut F Robinson, Capt W Seawell, Lieut Colonel H Whiting.

NAVY.—[Purser] Joseph Bryan, Captain Boarman, Lieut H Darcantel, [Purser] H Etting 3, [Purser] D Fauntleroy, [Chaplain] T R Lambert, Purser [F] G McCauley, B R Nichols, Purser U S ship Fairfield, [Purser] R Pettit, P Mid C B Poindexter, James H Spotts, Mid C Sinkler 3.

MARINE CORPS.—Lieut Wm B Slack.

### PASSENGERS.

CHARLESTON, July 5, per steam packet Wilmington, from Wilmington, Capt. M. M. Clark, of the army. Per steam packet Southerner, from Savannah, Capt. G. J. Rains, of the army, lady and child; and Lt. L. A. Armistead, of the army.

SAVANNAH, July 8, per steamboat Southerner, from Charleston, Captain M. M. Clark, of the army.

### Communications.

#### PUNISHMENT IN THE NAVY.

MR. EDITOR: I am an old man-of-war's man. Thirty and odd years of my life have been devoted to the sea, the greater part of which has been passed in the navy. I took to the navy for many reasons; and one in particular was that my habits were bad, and I found that I could not put sufficient restraint upon myself to rise in the merchant service. I well knew that in the navy punishment followed any deviation from propriety of conduct, either in not obeying orders promptly, or in any way neglecting to perform the duty assigned to me. I have risen to be a warrant officer, and by application, assisted by the little start in education that my parents were enabled to give me, to get along very well, and have, by the strict and proper discipline pursued with me, conquered the disgraceful habit which first induced me to take up with the navy.

You must, therefore, admit that I have some little experience in what is proper, so far as discipline is concerned; and you may be assured that I was not a little distressed the other day, in hearing read on the fore-castle a circular on the subject of punishment. I at once said to myself, that order kills up the navy; and it will be found so to do, and that very soon. As I said before, I have been the greater part of



thirty years in the navy, and always actively engaged on board ship; and I well know the character of the men who are generally taken on board of vessels of war. I also know something of the officers; a more gallant, humane, gentlemanly set of men is known to no service. If it is intended to make the service more popular, it must fail, because the good and active seaman, the sober and proper man, is now on a par with the idle and worthless. He who felt the dread of punishment, if he did not do his utmost to discharge his duties, will now say, 'Oh, d—n it, I'll take my time, I won't be in a hurry; they won't whip me for that, because the captain, to whom I must first be reported, will not like to make a report to the secretary that he has whipped a poor fellow because he did not move quick.' But the fact is, these are the very fellows that do want the cat most: skulking fellows, who know their duty, but put it off upon others. Every ship in the navy has a number of such, and these are the fellows that get most punishment. The good and trusty seaman is treated with kindness, and even attention, by the officers.

I have never seen, of late years, but one instance of the law being violated in regard to punishment; and I will here add, that if it had not been done, and that too at the very moment it was, (12 o'clock at night,) the ship would in all probability have been taken possession of by the crew, and the officers sent on shore.

There must be some good reason for this order; and although I, an old seaman, cannot fathom it, I'm sure you can, and I hope you will let us know something about it soon. I think our officers must see that the "right arm," as I hear it sometimes called, of our national defence is getting pretty low in the estimation of the nation, or those now at the head of affairs, when our officers are not to be trusted, their humanity called in question, and their honor and propriety of conduct doubted; all of which this order does.

ONCE A FOREMAST HAND,  
NOW A WARRANT OFFICER.

#### THE WEST INDIA SQUADRON.

MR. EDITOR: In No. 24, June 11th, 1840, of the Army & Navy Chronicle, I find an article headed "West India Squadron." No doubt the author of that piece intended being very, very fair in stating his views and lauding the secretary for his late order removing the W. I. squadron to the north; and I certainly agree with him that steam vessels would add to the facilities of movement in the West Indies; but one who writes for the public, and with the view of enlightening them, should be exceedingly particular in stating facts; he should "bear no malice," but "tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth." Does your author do this? I think not. He omits to inform your readers that the West India squadron is also the Gulf of Mexico squadron; and he probably forgets that there are such places on that gulf as New Orleans and Mobile, from whence issues a pretty considerable trade. He may not be also aware that our neighbors of Texas and Mexico are not in the most favorable state of political organization; or that England and France deem it advisable to keep a force on the coast of Mexico for the protection of their commerce, trifling when compared with that of the United States.

His comparison between peace and war, and Pensacola and the everglades, may possibly have some point, but unless it be the laying up of the navy, I know not what is intended; it is deep, deep, very deep—fathomless, as a seaman might say. And is it not most singular that, out of the "multitude of reasons" the author could give, he adds the unhealthiness of Pensacola!!!! Now this is too wanton, too bare-faced an attempt to impose upon his readers. The Secretary of the Navy—should any one have a doubt of the fact—has in his office documents that

will prove Pensacola to be not only healthy, but that nine out of ten cases coming into port with the yellow fever, if gotten to the hospital in time (I mean before the disease is too deeply seated) are cured. During all the time the squadron in the West Indies and Gulf of Mexico, upwards of three years, was under the command of Commodore D\*\*\*\*, and when it consisted of seven sloops of war, a frigate, two schooners, four revenue cutters, and three steamboats, employed constantly in the W. Indies, Gulf of Mexico, and on the coast of Florida, fewer deaths occurred from disease than occurs every season at Norfolk, or probably in the Mediterranean. Such is the fact, and it can be proven by the documents at the department. Why, then, should your author assert that which he must know (if he knows any thing about the squadron or Pensacola) not to be true? He says he has a "multitude of reasons" why the squadron should go north. If so, give them to the world; but let them be reasons having more foundation in truth than the unhealthiness of Pensacola.

#### Domestic Intelligence.

##### FLORIDA WAR.

St. AUGUSTINE, June 26.—Lieut. Asheton, 2d dragoons, writes from his camp near Wahoo swamp, that an Indian squaw, with her child, came in, and leaving the child, she went out again promising to return. The next day she brought in two warriors, who informed Lieut. Asheton, that they would bring in 31 warriors and their families, on Thursday, 25th instant.

The steamer Santee, Poinsett, arrived here from southern posts. On Tuesday last, five Indians had shown themselves in sight of Indian river Bar. On the night of the 18th inst. an Indian approached within fifty yards of Fort Dallas, and placed a book in the road, with two sticks laid across it, and made several marks around. The book had the name of Col. Harney written in it—supposed to have been taken at Caloosahatchie. It is said the Indian gave a yell and retreated, after having placed the book.

We are indebted to the same gentleman for the following additional information.

Col. Harney has brought into Black creek, the child and mother of Coacoche, together with a negro who can read and write, and who says the Indians are regularly supplied with the St. Augustine papers and ammunition by some persons.

The scout is broken up in consequence of sickness, 120 soldiers being sick at Fort King. General Armistead is expected at St. Augustine in a few days.

It is contemplated to remove the principal depot located at Garey's Ferry to Pilotka.—*News.*

St. AUGUSTINE, July 3.—The troops, who have been so actively engaged in the late scouts, have returned to their several stations, and the cordon across the peninsula, as contemplated by Gen. Armistead, is forthwith to be established. Several cases of sickness occurred during the progress of the late energetic movements against the enemy; but we are happy to learn that it was unattended by any fatal results.

By the steamer Santee, which arrived on Wednesday from Black Creek, we learn that a woman, supposed the mother of Wild Cat, and his child, have been taken by the command of Col. Harney near the Ahapopka, and are now at the Creek. We are also informed that a free negro, said to be of Connecticut, who was cook on board the schr. Comet, wrecked some time since on the coast, was also taken. The crew were all murdered near New Smyrna, as the letters indicated which were found near their remains. The fellow was spared, and has been with them over twenty months. A good many tales are afloat, as relations made by him; but we forbear giving them currency for the present.

Lieut. Newton, 2d dragoons, aid-de-camp to the Commanding General, arrived in town last evening from Fort King. He is accompanied by the negro Sam, lately taken at Wild Cat's camping ground.

It is now decided that the depot at Garey's Ferry is to be removed to Pilatka. Contracts for laborers, we understand, are offered at \$20 per month, to assist in the transportation and buildings.—*News*.

*To the Editor of the St. Augustine News:*

SIR: As an additional proof, were any wanting, of the efficiency and value of the revenue cutter service, please publish the following statement:

On the 19th June, we sailed in the schooner Stephen & Francis from Charleston for St. Augustine. On the 21st, we were off St. Catharine's, having encountered continued head winds. That evening, we were struck by a squall, and had our sails badly split and partly carried away. With some difficulty we succeeded, through the good seamanship of Captain Magee, in making Tybee harbor, when we were boarded by the U. S. revenue cutter Crawford, and every assistance was promptly tendered us. Through the active exertions of Capt. Rudolph, and Lieuts. Walker, Joyner and Stirk, the crew of the cutter aided most manfully in the arduous labors of repairing thoroughly, our shattered sails. The cutter supplying such parts of the implements and material as we lacked. It is no more than justice, to thank these gentlemen, thus publicly, and to express our conviction of the importance of this branch of the Government service—and further to express the hope, that the time is not far distant when the Government will perceive and feel the importance, nay absolute necessity, for stationing a revenue cutter on the Eastern coast of Florida, to cruise between the St. John's, St. Augustine, New Smyrna, &c., where assistance is so frequently needed, but hitherto has been rendered through the charity of private citizens, to the wrecked mariners and passengers cast upon our shores, after it was too late to assist in saving the vessel. A PASSENGER.

*From the Savannah Georgian.*

We are indebted to our attentive correspondent for the following:

FORT J. R. SMITH, June 30, 1840.—On the 29th inst. as a train of six wagons (escorted by six men, under the command of a non-commissioned officer,) was proceeding from Fort Fanning to Fort McCrabb, they were fired upon by a party of twenty Indians, concealed near Old Town Hammocks. The wagon master, who was ahead of the train, had his horse shot from under him. One mule belonging to the train was killed, but no man injured. The Indians carried off the wagon covers, and finding themselves pursued by a party of regulars, sent out for that purpose, crossed the Suwannee above Old Town. A detachment of regulars are now hot in pursuit, and it is to be hoped their efforts to overtake them may prove successful. In haste.

*From the New York American, June 30.*

WEST POINT ACADEMY.—The following communication from the Right Rev. the Bishop of New York, who was the President of the Board of Visitors this year to West Point, will be read with gratification by the friends of that institution:

*To the Editor of the New York American:*

SIR: In my capacity as President of the late Board of Visitors of the United States Military Academy at West Point, I have just received a communication from the Chief Engineer at Washington, a portion of which is intended—as it should in justice to them—to be brought to the notice of my respected colleagues on that Board. Not being aware of the residence of some of them, I ask the favor of being allowed to place it in your columns, and in the same way to solicit its insertion in other papers, in the hope that

the sentiments of the Honorable, the Secretary of War, may thus be made known to each of those gentlemen, and the gratifying instrumentality in communicating them, with which I have been honored, be fulfilled.

I have the honor to be, dear sir, with great respect, yours, very truly,

BENJ. T. ONDERDONK.

NEW YORK, June 23, 1840.

The following is the portion of Col. Totten's letter, to which reference is here made.

"The Secretary of War desires me to express to the Board, through you, the high sense he entertains of the able and impartial manner in which their duties have been performed. The minute investigation and lucid report of the state of the Academy, requiring so much care and attention on their part, call for his acknowledgment, which I have the honor to present."

THE TEXIAN SQUADRON.—The Texian sloop of war Austin, E. W. Moore, Commander; the San Jacinto, Lieut. Robert Pastell; schr. San Bernard, Lieut. Williamson; schr. San Antonio, Lieut. A. Moore; are all at anchor outside the S. W. Pass. The steam ship Zavalla, J. T. K. Lothrop, Esq. Commander, has arrived in this port. It is understood that this fleet (pretty formidable for a Republic so young as our sister,) is destined on a cruise in the Gulf, as soon as they shall have obtained here the necessary provisions.

The following are the officers of the Zavalla:

J. T. K. Lothrop, Esq. Commander.

Geo. Henderson, 1st Lieutenant.

Wm. C. Brashear, 2d do.

Wm. T. Maning, Purser.

J. B. Anderson, Surgeon.

D. Lloyd, Sailing Master.

Midshipmen—Wm. McFarlane, C. S. Betts, J. E. Barrow, C. C. Cox, H. S. Garlick, Austin Hartman.

Boatswain—J. H. Scott.

Carpenter—Jas. Auld.

Gunner—Henry Horner.—*N. O. Bulletin, July 1.*

*From the Halifax Times, June 23.*

Capt. Breese and the gun-room officers of the U. S. ship Preble, were entertained by His Excellency the Lieut. Governor, at dinner, on Friday the 12th inst. On Tuesday last, His Excellency and suite visited the Preble, and met with a very cordial reception. She sailed for Portland (U. S.) on Friday last.

ST. JOHN, June 24.—Yesterday the U. S. sloop-of-war Preble, 18 guns, Capt. Breese, arrived at this port. She this day saluted the garrison, which was as courteously returned as it was given. She is the same vessel that relieved a vessel belonging to this port when in a distressed state at sea. Such feelings of reciprocity between two nations, once enemies, must become doubly grateful to the generous mind. We sprang from the same common stock, speak the same language, and are alike enamored of liberal and good government. May the tongue be paralyzed that would speak a wrathful word between us.

During the firing of the salute, we regret to state that owing to the man stationed at the vent neglecting to stop it in time, the gun went off while two artillery men were ramming home the cartridge, and blew off the arms of both of them. They were taken to the hospital, and hopes are entertained of their eventual recovery.

ACCIDENT.—We are sorry to learn that our esteemed townsman, Capt. Horace B. Sawyer, of the U. S. navy, met with a serious accident on Tuesday last. As he was riding on horse back, his horse took fright and threw him, by which his arm was broken near the shoulder, besides seriously injuring him otherwise.—*Burlington, Vt. Sentinel, July 3.*



**BEAUTIFUL OBJECT.**—A few days ago a dapper craft, rigged most gracefully after the fashion of a brig, with her top-gallant sails and royals all set, and manned by a parcel of youngsters 10 or 12 years old, and tidily dressed as sailors, was seen off the town. Much curiosity was excited to know who and what she was. She soon came up with a smart breeze, and was seen to great advantage as she passed the wharves. As she sailed along, one of her juvenile crew kept the lead a going, and called out in true sailor style. Presently the shrill whistle of the young boatswain was heard, and she put about with all the deliberation and decision of a man of war. A midshipman about fourteen or fifteen was the commander of the craft; and this circumstance, added to the appearance of the vessel, plainly told that she belonged to the naval service. The sight was very gratifying to all who enjoyed it, and the skill of the crew called forth the praises of several veterans of the sea. Upon enquiry we learned that the first cutter of the Delaware had been fitted up as a brig for the purpose of drilling the naval apprentices in the practical details of seamanship. She is about 37 feet long; her crew consists of 20 apprentices; her sails and yards are exercised regularly. When underway, she is made to perform all the evolutions of a man of war; the boys are taught to reef, furl, heave the lead, steer, &c. The boatswain is a lad of about 15, and gives the various notes of command known in a larger vessel. The utility of such a craft to the apprentices and midshipmen is great and decided, as in a small vessel the eye of the young sailor can trace ropes to their terminations, and see instantly their effect on the yards or sails. There is also a feeling of pride roused in the breasts of the young tars, which is highly salutary, and such is the precision of the movements of this little craft, that she attracts more attention than a line-of-battle ship would do, as she moves in our harbor, which, by the way, is eminently adapted for the working of vessels, and as an elementary school for naval tactics. On the 4th, this little clipper, which is called the Paulding, was sailing about, when the wind freshened up, and reduced her to reefed topsails, which was done in a seamanlike manner. Would it not be well to have a vessel somewhat larger, say one of the Hampton pilot boats, rigged as a ship, for the use of the naval school? The expense would be trifling, and the result would prove highly auspicious to the interests of the navy and the success of the school. Indeed the present skill of the boys is an eloquent testimonial of the vigilance and assiduity of Capt. Skinner, to whom the duty of supervising the apprentices on board the Delaware is assigned.—*Norfolk Beacon*.

*From the N. Y. Journal of Commerce.*

**SHIPMENT AND DISCHARGE OF SEAMEN.**—A bill reported by Mr. Davis from the Committee of Commerce, has passed to be engrossed in the Senate, in relation to the shipment and discharge of seamen and the duties of Consuls. It comprises 21 sections, and provides, among other things, that the crew list and shipping articles of all vessels bound on foreign voyages, shall be made in one uniform hand, without erasures or interlineations; that these papers shall be deemed to contain all the conditions of the contract with crew as to their service; that all erasures, interlineations, or writing, in a hand different from that in which the papers were originally drawn, shall be deemed fraudulent and null, unless satisfactorily explained: That on application both of the master and any mariner for the discharge of the latter, any Consul, or in his absence any Commercial Agent of the United States, may grant such discharge, without the payment of three months' wages as required by the law of 1833, or any other sum of money. On the seaman's being discharged, an entry of that fact must be made in the crew list and shipping articles by

the Consul or Commercial Agent. An entry must be made by one of the same functionaries, when a seaman is shipped at a foreign port. If a seaman complains that the voyage is continued contrary to his agreement, or that his time of service has expired, the Consul or Commercial Agent shall enquire into the matter, and if he finds the complaint well founded, shall discharge the mariner if he desires it, and require of the master three months' wages besides what is actually due; and in case the lawful claims of such mariner are not paid on his discharge, the arrears shall bear 20 per cent. interest from that date. The Consul can remit the three months' wages if he is satisfied that the voyage has been protracted by circumstances beyond the master's control. If, through neglect or design, a vessel is sent to sea in an unsuitable condition, or unsuitably provisioned, (which points shall be determined by inspectors appointed by the Consul to inquire into facts,) the seamen may claim their discharge, and three months pay in addition to their wages: but if in the opinion of the inspectors, the defects or deficiencies were the result of mistake or accident, and could not, by the exercise of ordinary care, have been known or provided against before the sailing of the vessel, the master shall within a reasonable time remove the causes of complaint, and the crew shall remain and discharge their duty. The Act to be in force from the 1st of October next.

The Delaware 74, Captain Skinner, the flag ship of Commodore Warrington, was an object of attraction on the Fourth. She was gaily decorated with the flags of every nation, extending from the fore truck to the end of the bowsprit. There was a stiff breeze during the day, and every flag stood forth in full proportions. A large number of our citizens were present at the west end of the town to observe the evening salute of the Delaware, and were highly gratified at the exhibition. The band struck up several national airs which were borne to the shore with fine effect. At night several rockets were launched from the ship, and were seen at a great distance. We do not remember to have seen more flags flying in our harbor than we saw on the fourth.

At night the Delaware was splendidly illuminated, a pyramid of light extending from the deck to the main truck. There was also a strong light from each of her ports, and she looked as if on fire, the glare being increased by the reflection from the waters.—*Norfolk Beacon, July 7.*

*From the New York Courier & Enquirer.*

**BRAZIL.**—We have received from a correspondent at Rio de Janeiro, the following correspondence, which is a translation of letters which appeared in one of the journals of that city, with a request to publish it.

**MR. EDITOR:**—I have been informed that the American vessels of war which lately arrived in this port from the Pacific, as well as one which arrived a few days since from the United States, with the commander in chief for this station, have neglected to observe the etiquette, or pay the military civilities which are generally exchanged between foreign vessels of war on their arriving in this port. The cause of the complaint would not have been so apparent, had not the American commodore saluted the pennant of Commo. Sullivan, hoisted on board of H. B. M.'s ship "Stag." Our commodore sent boats on board the vessels above referred to, immediately on their arrival, proffering the services of the ship he commanded, in the name of his government, any things they might require from the arsenals—and up to the present moment these civilities have not been reciprocated. I regret to observe these omissions of etiquette on the part of a nation whom we highly esteem, and a navy which can with pride boast of such men as Commodore Nicolson and the officers of the U. S. ship Independence. These officers, by their gentlemanly de-

portment, gained the esteem and respect of all who became acquainted with them, and particularly the officers of our navy, to whom they showed every attention, not only in this and other ports of the empire, but in Monte Video and Buenos Ayres, where they have frequently met with our vessels of war. While speaking upon this subject, I should not forget to mention the kind attentions we have also received from the commander of the U. S. brig Dolphin, and her officers. We shall not forget the U. S. ship Independence, or the pennant of her distinguished commander.

Mr. EDITOR:—I observed in your journal of yesterday, a communication reflecting on the conduct of the commanders of the American vessels of war, which have lately touched here, on their way to the United States. Your correspondent states that the above officers did not show the respect which is due to the commander of the port, by not visiting him, &c. The fact is, these officers were misled by the wrong information given them by their own countrymen, who informed them that the Brazilian 74, at anchor, was only used for a school ship, and that she had no commodore or superior officer on board; and furthermore, that the only ceremony practised on the arrival of foreign vessels of war, was to hoist the Brazilian flag and fire 21 guns, which would be answered by the fort,—which ceremony was performed.

The American commodore remained in this state of ignorance until Saturday evening last, when he was informed that a French vessel of war had saluted the commander of the port. He then requested the commander of his ship to repair on board the Brazilian ship on Monday morning, (he being confined to his room by sickness,) and explain to the commander of the port, the cause of the apparent omission on his part, to pay him the respect due to an officer of his rank.

This is a plain statement of the facts, in relation to the affair complained of, by your correspondent; and in justice to the commodore who has lately arrived, may I ask of you to give these lines a place in your journal?

THE NAVY—The New York Star, in noticing the remarks of our correspondent upon the miserably slow promotion of officers in the American navy, adds:

No fear of any American officer, sailor or soldier under sixty, lacking the fire of youth.

Perhaps not, perhaps not; but a poor devil of a lieutenant, who wears an epaulette upon his left shoulder from twenty five to sixty, becomes lopsided: hanging a swob on the other shoulder does not bring him into trim; and when he mounts his toggery to a captaincy, he lurches about so, that the "young gentlemen" themselves would say, their goes a lieutenant with the captain's dress.

We want a higher grade as a safety valve—somewhere to place the old commanders out of the chance of being overhauled by their juniors; and then a lieutenant might hope to be a post captain before the rheumatism drove him from the quarter deck, and midshipmen look for a little bullion on their shoulder before time sprinkled his honors on their head. It is all wrong now, and ought to be remedied.—*United States Gazette*.

General Z. Taylor, of the United States Army, touched at this city on Saturday, on his way to Philadelphia. This gallant veteran looks well, notwithstanding the exposures in the inhospitable climate and morasses of Florida. His career in the South has been as distinguished as in the war of 1812, when his heroism in the defence of Fort Harrison, led to the first Brevetcy in that day of brilliant events.—*Cincinnati Republican*.

From the Southern Literary Messenger for June.

COMMODORE NICOLSON.

In an article published in our April number, under the head of "Scraps from the Lucky Bag," the author, with a view of showing that the American commerce has sustained much injury by reason of the inadequacy of the American naval force to protect it, calls the attention of the reader to a recent capture of two American vessels, made on the coast of Brazil by French vessels-of-war, and in relation to it uses the following language:

"Here we find a most valuable and active trade in flour, coffee, manufactures, hides, &c. interrupted and vexed by a blockade, paper and real—twenty-five or thirty French-men-of-war harassing our merchants. They have wantonly seized and anchored under their guns, two American vessels, in presence of the American squadron, consisting of one frigate and one sloop-of-war. The American captain, mortified at his own weakness, is writing a letter of entreaty, craving as a boon from the Frenchmen the release of these two vessels."

Commodore NICOLSON, the commander of the American vessels before La-Plata at the time of this capture, has called our attention to the passage above quoted, and complains of the injustice thereby done him, especially by the last sentence thereof, which imputes to him the act of writing a letter of "entreaty," and craving as a boon the release of the American vessels; and he has submitted to us the whole correspondence on the subject, between himself and Rear Admiral LE BLANC, commander of the French squadron.

We regret very much that any thing should have occurred in our journal which has been offensive to the feelings of a gentleman who stands so high in our esteem, and whose past services have gained him the approbation of his country. But it did not appear to us when we published the article from the Lucky Bag, that the passage referred to contained any thing personally offensive; and we are satisfied that the author did not intend by it any imputation upon the American captain. We take pleasure now in doing Commodore NICOLSON the justice to say, that we have read the correspondence between him and Rear Admiral LE BLANC; that in our opinion there is nothing in it that would justify any imputation that he had condescended to *entreat*, or to *crave as a boon*, what he ought to have demanded as a right—nothing which is not entirely consistent with that dignity and manly bearing which should have been expected from the gallant officer, whose naval services during the last war won from his native State the honorable award of a sword, and the expression of her warm approbation. On the contrary, we think that the temper and the firmness with which the correspondence was conducted, on the part of Com. NICOLSON, well merited the approbation expressed in the letter of the Secretary of the Navy, dated June 17th, 1839, which we here publish.

NAVY DEPARTMENT, June 17th, 1839.

SIR: Your letter of April last (No. 158,) enclosing the correspondence between Admiral LE BLANC and yourself, in relation to the two American brigs, the "Eliza Davidson" and the "America," has been received.

I take pleasure in expressing to you the approbation of the Department at the result of this correspondence, and the firm and temperate tone in which it was conducted on your part.

I am, very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

J. K. PAULDING.

Com. J. B. NICOLSON, Com'g U. S. squadron,  
Coast of Brazil, Rio de Janeiro.

OFFICIAL NAVAL REGISTER, FOR 1840.—A few copies for sale at this office.

Ap. 2



*From the Missouri Saturday News.*

The brief sketch of our Florida correspondent will be read with some interest, when an assurance is given that there is no fiction in the tale.

#### A SCOUT IN FLORIDA.

"But he better could brook to behold the dying,  
Deep in the tide of their warm blood lying,

Than the perishing dead who are all past pain.

But when all is past, it is humbling to tread  
O'er the weltering field of the tombless dead,  
And see the worms of earth, fowls of the air,  
And beasts of the forest all gath'ring there."

*Siege of Corinth.*

Towards noon of a tropical day, a party of men might have been observed, caparisoned for deeds of death, marching along the verge of one of those dense, dark hammocks that characterize the haunts of the Seminole, in Florida. The party was led by a young officer who, like the soldiers of his command, toiled along under the weight of a heavy musket and haversack of provisions, until the perspiration streamed from his weather-beaten brow.

The party halted to allow a man to overtake them, who had fallen some distance in the rear. Upon his joining, a sergeant approached the officer, and after saluting, addressed him—

"Will the Lieutenant please to look at private Smith; he seems very sick."

The officer went to the rear and found the man fainting from parching thirst. He turned up his canteen and poured the last few drops it contained into the mouth of the soldier. This revived the man sufficiently to permit him to resume the march, and the command leaving the more open woods plunged into the hammock, and after searching it for a tedious time, and, until the men were barely able to drag one foot after the other, a small pool of water was discovered, and thickly strewn around it were the bodies of several Indian warriors who had fallen in fight a few days before. They lay in various positions, and just as they had received their death-wounds. Some were horribly torn by musket balls, and others exhibited but the small orifice of the bayonet wound. The countenances of the warriors showed plainly the various emotions felt by them in death. Wild, fierce passion marked the lineaments of some; some showed that they had felt terror and despair, while others seemed to have sunk as calmly to rest, as if their heads had been pillowed upon the breasts of those whose caresses had soothed them in childhood.

It was a proper mausoleum for these children of the forest. The tall cypress stood in dense ranks around, while the dark drapery of Spanish moss formed a fitting pall; and the slight breeze that sighed through the tops of those "constant mourners of the dead," made a sad, mournful requiem.

So soon as the party under his command had refreshed themselves upon the turbid pond water, the lieutenant gave the order to march; preferring the heat and fatigue of a march through the more open woods, to repose so near the festering dead.

We will follow the movements of the party through a day's toil over the sands of the inhospitable region of which we write, as our design is to give a sketch unvarnished of the privation and suffering endured by those who serve their country in Florida.

The march had progressed for some hours, through alternate pine barren, and palmetto and cypress hammocks, when it was made known to the officer that a man of his party was from heat and thirst unable to proceed further. A halt was ordered, and as the absence of water precluded the idea of encamping on the spot, a rude litter was formed and the sick man borne upon the shoulders of four of his comrades. For many weary tedious miles were they compelled to toil onward with this accession to their labors,

still so inured were they to fatigue, and so perfect was their discipline, that not a murmur was uttered at the duties their officer imposed upon them, and with them shared.

As the sun fell towards the horizon, admonishing the party that it was time to halt for the night, the officer cast furtive glances around in search of some evidence of the vicinage of that indispensable luxury, water. A hammock, some little distance in front, on the line of his march, gave the outward indications that water might be found towards its centre; and upon searching he was not disappointed. The hammock soon presented a busy scene. After the men had assuaged their thirst, arms were stacked, fires lit, and rapid preparations made for the evening meal. Haversacks were soon disburdened of their not delicate, but substantial contents, and ere long the savory fumes of the rude cookery were wafted around. The soldiers, ever attentive to their officer, in a short space had his fire made, his palmetto couch spread, (they were as badly off for blankets as Falstaff's men were for shirts,) and a cup of delicious coffee from the stores of his haversack, smoking before him.

In the enjoyment of rest and food the men soon forgot the trials of the day, and the rude jest and merry laugh echoed cheerily around. And now the night wanes, the sentinel is posted, and we leave the soldier taking his rest.

This is no fancy sketch; but an uncolored one, of the every-day life that the Florida soldier endures, from the time he first sets foot in this Territory, until disease, or the more merciful bullet, or scalping knife of the Indian, grants him "a leave of absence." L.

#### Original Poetry.

##### LINES

Suggested by the diversity of opinion now prevailing in regard to the admittance of married men into the Army, and of young officers taking upon themselves the conjugal vow.

*"Clare can a warrior's feelings know."*

In olden days, each gallant knight  
Bow'd at the shrine of lady bright;  
And worshiped her, in peace and war,  
As life's one sweet and lovely star.  
Well worth the joust in listed field,  
With pennon, lance, and burnished shield,  
Was her light scarf, his arm that graced,  
Or favor in his hemlet placed;  
And her fair presence ever lent  
New magic to the tournament!

Yes! woman true, through woe and weal,  
The glittering spur, bound to his heel;  
And with her meek and gentle mien  
E'en in the tented field was seen;  
Or, stilling her full heart, she bent,  
As some kind ministering angel sent,  
Beside the wounded warrior's bed,  
And words of faith and comfort said;  
Or wiped the death damps from his brow,  
Though all earth's hopes were smitten low.

Alas! alas! Sir Cupid, now,  
May break his arrows, burn his bow,  
And hymen quench his torch's flame,  
In these degenerate days of shame;  
When he, who would young laurels win,  
Must deem such worship, crying sin!  
And cast aside all dearer ties,  
And all man's noble heart may prize.

Old Pluto, too, must have his reign,  
If epaulettes they hope to gain;  
And in his temple, vows be said,  
Ere they can wield a shining blade.  
Yes! they must break each silver chord,  
And call back many a plighted word,  
And crush some young and trusting heart,  
If they would bear the hero's part!

What nerves the soldier's arm, when near  
His foeman's blast rings on the ear;  
What nerves him, when so loud and high,  
Bursts forth the thrilling battle cry?  
'Tis woman's love! a beaming light,  
His beacon in the stormy fight,  
And ever in the camp and field,  
A holy spell! his spirit's shield!

Look to the south, where side by side,  
Our gallant warriors nobly died!  
When radiant were the summer bowers,  
And earth seem'd all one home of flowers;  
Say, did they shrink? oh no! oh no!  
Tho' the fierce red man was the foe;  
But bravely fought on to the last,  
And grasped the sword, when life had passed!

But yet they loved, and woman there  
Pour'd forth for them her midnight prayer;  
She breathed no sigh, nor shed the tear  
To dim the courage of the dear;  
But beautiful and true, she stood,  
Though from her fair cheek ebb'd the blood,  
And bade "God speed," to each brave one,  
Who might not see to-morrow's sun;  
And watched the glittering, long array,  
Then turn'd—in solitude to pray!

She makes the soldier's home a spot  
Where toil and warfare are forgot;  
And they, who would have sever'd, riven,  
The holiest ties by Heaven given,  
Should think of their own hearth and board.  
Let the loud voice of truth be heard,  
And bid their country mete to them,  
Whose arms guard well her diadem,  
The meed their well earn'd honors claim,  
And our escutcheon knows no stain!

Boston, June 10, 1840.

**CAPTAIN ROSS'S EXPEDITION.**—Letters have been received from the Antarctic Expedition, dated from St. Helena the beginning of February. Lieutenant Lefroy, of the Royal artillery, who is to conduct the magnetic observatory on that island, had been landed with his instruments and assistants, and occupied Napoleon Bonaparte's house at Longwood, which has been assigned as his residence, and in the neighborhood of which his observatory is to be built. From St. Helena, Captain Ross proceeds to the Cape of Good Hope, to establish Lieutenant Eardley Wilmot, R. A., and his party, in a similar observatory, where corresponding observations are to be made during the three years in which the expedition will remain in the southern hemisphere. We understand that, by adopting proper precautions, the officers succeeded in making magnetic observations at sea with as much precision as on land, the two ships sometimes telegraphing to each other the same minute of dip. The importance of this success towards the prosecution of the objects of the voyage will be estimated, when it is considered how large a portion of the southern hemisphere is covered by the sea. Captain Ross obtained soundings in the middle of the Atlantic Ocean, and far distant from any land, with a line of 2,500 fathoms; being, we believe, by far the greatest depth that has ever been reached by a sounding line.—*London Literary Gazette.*

#### SEMAPHORIC TELEGRAPH.

Just received, and for sale at the office of the Army and Navy Chronicle.

JOHN R. PARKER'S SEMAPHORIC TELEGRAPH SIGNAL BOOK and UNITED STATES TELEGRAPH VOCABULARY, in Three Parts; containing,

The Marine Telegraph and Holyhead systems of conversation, adapted to the use of the Semaphoric Telegraph, embracing 30,000 words, phrases and sentences, numerically arranged for conversation between vessels at sea, as well as communications on shore;

The Marine Telegraph Register, of 2,000 vessels which have adopted the Semaphoric system of communication with the Marine Telegraph flags.

Sets of flags, with a designating number and Signal Book, supplied by  
June 1—6m

B. HOMANS,  
Agent for the Proprietor,

### Military Intelligence.

**Medical Staff.**—Leave of absence for three months to Surgeon R. C. Wood. Surgeon A. N. McLaren, ordered to Hancock Barracks. Asst. Surgeon W. S. King, St. Louis arsenal, (subsequently ordered to post on Turkey river, west of Fort Crawford) Asst. Surgeon B. W. Woods, now at Fort Crawford, for duty at Fort Gibson. Asst. Sur. A. W. Kennedy, Fort Leavenworth. Asst. Sur. J. Robertson, Jefferson Barracks, for duty with 8th inf'y. Asst. Sur. J. S. Griffin, 4th inf'y, Fort Gibson. Leave three months to Asst. Surgeon L. C. McPhail.

**Quartermaster's department.**—Major Isaac Clark, on leave of absence. Captain Q. Cross, ordered to New Orleans. Captain M. M. Clark, to Savannah. Captain E. S. Sibley, to Florida.

**1st Dragoons.**—1st Lieut. F. Robinson, for duty at Carlisle Barracks; 2d Lt. J. H. Carleton, to relieve 1st Lt. R. West on recruiting service at Philadelphia; Lieut. W. goes to Carlisle Barracks.

**2d Artillery.**—Leave until Oct. 20, to Captain S. Mackenzie, for the benefit of his health.

**3d Artillery.**—Leave to Brevet Major T. Childs, extended to October 31. 1st Lt. F. O. Wyse, for duty with recruits at Fort Columbus.

**4th Artillery.**—Leave to Captain J. M. Washington, extended two months.

**3d Infantry.**—Leave until Nov. 1, to 1st Lt. A. G. Blanchard, on closing his rendezvous at New Orleans. 2d Lt. R. D. Stephen, ordered from Carlisle Barracks for duty with recruits at Fort Columbus.

**4th Infantry.**—Leave for six months to 1st Lieut. B. Alvord.

**6th Infantry.**—1st Lt. J. Monroe, Jr., and 2d Lt. R. W. Foote, for duty with recruits at Fort Columbus.

**8th Infantry.**—Leave to Captain J. Bonnell, four months, for the benefit of his health.

### NAVY.

#### ORDERS.

July 9—Professor A. G. Pendleton, detached from ship John Adams.

Mid. I. S. K. You, Naval School, Philadelphia.

10—Carpenter J. Rainbow, receiving ship, N. York.

#### PROMOTIONS.

*Passed Midshipmen to be Lieutenants.*

William Leigh, May 30, 1840.

Samuel Larkin, Jr., July 1, 1840.

#### RE-APPOINTMENTS.

Elias Kane, Navy Agent, Washington, D. C., for four years from July 14, 1840.

Benjamin D. Heriot, Navy Agent, Charleston, S. C., for four years from October 4, 1840.

#### MARINE CORPS.

##### NAMES.

Colonel.

Arch'd Henderson, Colonel Comd't, Head Quarters.

Lieut. Colonel.

R. D. Wainwright, Supt'g recruit'g service, (office in Washington city.)

Majors and Lt. Cols. by brevet.

Samuel Miller, com'g M. O., Phila. N. Yard.

Samuel E. Watson, com'g M. O., Portsmouth, N. H. Navy Yard.

William H. Freeman, com'g M. O., Charlestown, Massachusetts, Navy Yard.

Charles R. Broom, under sus'sion, (Washington, D.C.)

Captains.

Levi Twigg, com'g M. Barracks, Washington, D. C.

John Harris, com'g M. Barracks, Brooklyn, N. Y.

Thomas A. Linton, Ohio 74

James Edelin, waiting orders in Washington, D. C.

Parke G. Howle, Adj't and Insp'r, Head Quarters.

Wm. Dulany, com'g Philadelphia Rendezvous.

Thomas S. English, on duty at the Marine Barracks, Brooklyn, N. Y.

George W. Walker, Paymaster, Head Quarters.

Ward Marston, on duty at the M. B., Charlestown.



Aug. A. Nicholson, Quartermaster, Head Quarters.  
 Benj. Macomber, com'g New York Rendezvous.  
 Abram N. Brevoort, on leave of absence, Philadelphia.  
 Richard Douglas, on duty at the M. B., Philadelphia.  
*First Lieutenants.*  
 Job G. Williams, com'g M. O., Pensacola Navy Yard.  
 Alvin Edson, attached to the Quartermaster's dept.,  
 Boston, Mass., on leave, Randolph, Orange co., Vt.  
 Henry B. Tyler, on leave, Haymarket, P. Wm. co., Va.  
 Jos. L. C. Hardy, H. Qrs., on duty in Pay Mrs. dept.  
 Geo. F. Lindsay, Asst. Quartermaster, Phila., Pa.  
 Landon N. Carter, H. Qrs., on duty in Qr. Mrs. dept.  
 John G. Reynolds, Head Quarters.  
 Francis C. Hall, on duty at the M. B., Philadelphia.  
 Thos. L. C. Watkins, attached to the Quartermaster's  
 department, M. B., Brooklyn, N. Y.  
 Francis N. Armistead, Portsmouth, Va. (sick.)  
 George H. Terrett, schooner Flirt.  
 William E. Stark, Norfolk Va., act'g Asst. Qr. Mr.  
 Nathl. S. Waldron, on duty at M. B., Brooklyn, N. Y.  
 William Lang, " " " " " "  
 Jacob Zeilin, " " " " Charlestown, Mass.  
 Geo. W. Robbins, " " " " Brooklyn, N. Y.  
 D. D. Baker, on leave, Orange, Franklin co., Mass.  
 A. H. Gillespie, on duty at M. Barracks, H. Quarters.  
 B. E. Brooke, " " " " Philadelphia.  
 Jabez C. Rich, Frigate Constitution.  
*Second Lieutenants.*  
 Thomas T. Sloan, steamboat Poinsett, on duty ashore  
 at Tea Table Key, E. F.  
 Addison Garland, Frigate Brandywine.  
 Fredk. B. McNeill, on duty at M. Barracks, Charles-  
 town, Mass.  
 Edward L. West, on duty at M. Barracks, H. Qrs.  
 R. C. Caldwell, Frigate Macedonian.  
 Lafayette Searcy, on duty at the M. Barracks, Phila.  
 William L. Young, " " " " H. Quarters.  
 Josiah Watson, Ohio 74.  
 Henry B. Watson, Ohio 74.  
 Thomas A. Brady, Frigate Potomac.  
 Isaac T. Doughty, on duty at M. B., Brooklyn, N. Y.  
 Wm. A. T. Maddox, " " " " Philadelphia.  
 Isaac R. Wilson, " " " " Charlestown, Mass.  
 Wm. B. Slack, " " " " Head Quarters.  
 John S. Devlin, " " " " Brooklyn, N. Y.  
 Algernon S. Taylor, " " " " Portsmouth, N. H.  
 Wm. L. Shuttleworth, " " " " Brooklyn, N. Y.  
 James Maguire, " " " " Head Quarters.  
 Robt. D. Taylor, " " " " Head Quarters.  
 Joseph W. Curtis, appointed 7th May, 1840, to take  
 rank from 4th May, 1840; on leave, Warren, Wash-  
 ington co., Vt.  
 P. G. HOWLE, *Adj't & Inspector.*  
 HEAD QUARTERS OF THE MARINE CORPS,  
*Adjutant and Inspector's Office,*  
 Washington, 15th July, 1840. }

### Naval Intelligence.

#### U. S. VESSELS OF WAR REPORTED.

Brig Dolphin, Lt. Comdt. C. H. Bell, arrived at New York, on Tuesday, 14th instant, from a cruise of nearly seven months, on the coast of Africa. On her way home, touched at St. Pierre's, Martinique, which place she left on the 1st instant. Officers and crew all in good health. The officers are—

*Lieut. Com'g* Charles H. Bell, Esq. *Lieutenants* James F. Schenck, Jas. P. McKinstry, *Passed Assistant Surgeon* R. T. Barry, *Purser* Thomas B. Nalle, *Passed Midshipman* J. R. M. Mullany, *Midshipmen* James Ladd, George E. West, Wm. F. Spicer, *Master's Mate* Adam Young.

*WEST INDIA SQUADRON.*—Ship Levant, Joseph Smoot, Esq., commander, arrived at Pensacola, on Sunday, 21st June, from a cruise in the Gulf of Mexico, having visited the ports of Campeachy, Vera Cruz, Tampico, and the mouth of Rio Bravo del Norte. The officers and crew all well.

The following is a list of her officers.

*Commander* Jos. Smoot, Esq., *Lieuts.* L. Pennington, J. C. Sharpe, J. R. Tucker, G. H. Scott, *Act'g.*

*Surgeon* Wm. F. Patton, *Purser* B. F. Hart, *acting Master* L. B. Avery, *Passed Midshipman* Wm. A. Wayne, *Ass't Surgeon* R. B. Banister, *Professor of Mathematics* J. H. C. Coffin, *Midshipmen* Geo. H. Preble, J. C. Howell, E. T. Nichols, F. A. Parker, A. Bryson, L. R. Law, C. Bertody, R. M. Cuyler, B. L. Henderson, *Captain's clerk* Thos. H. Stoneall, *Boatswain* J. Bryant, *Acting Carpenter* F. M. Cecil, *Sailmaker* G. Parker, *Gunner* H. Welton, *Purser's Steward* B. Prescott.

### DEATHS.

At Harrisburg, Pa., on the 21st ult., Mrs. MARGARET P. WILSON, wife of Lieut. JAMES P. WILSON, and sister of Lieut. GEO. N. HOLLIS, of the U. S. navy.

In Baltimore, on the 28th ult., ANNA POWER, aged 21 months, eldest daughter of Lieut. THORNTON A. JENKINS, of the U. S. navy.

In Cambridge, Mass., on the 29th ult., in the 40th year of her age, Mrs. JULIA TODD, wife of JOHN N. TODD, Esq., Purser of the U. S. navy.

At Governor's Island, New York harbor, on the 21st ult., SARAH EVELINA, aged 9 months, infant daughter of the late Capt. J. A. d'LAGNEL, of the U. S. army.

In Marblehead, Mass., on the Lieut. JOHN E. PRENTISS, of the U. S. navy, aged 47 years.

*From the Mobile Commercial Register.*

[COMMUNICATED.]

Died, of congestive fever, on the 23d June, at his residence in Sumter county, Ala., Lieut. ALEXANDER C. MAURY, of the U. S. navy, aged about 33 years. Mr. Maury was a native of Williamson co., Tennessee, which place he had recently visited, for the purpose of alleviating by his presence, as much as he could, the sufferings of an afflicted parent. Called by his duty home, scarcely had he left the parental roof, when his father in the maturity of years, like ripe fruit, descended into the grave. And now, after a brief space, as if an all-wise Providence designed an impressive lesson of the uncertainty of life, the son too has been cut off in the flush and flower of existence, and "the voice of the weeper wails manhood in glory."

The writer of this imperfect memorial was acquainted with the deceased in early boyhood, was his school-fellow, and was but separated from him in the pursuit of different professional avocations. He feels a melancholy pleasure in bearing testimony to the harmony and consistency of every portion of the life of the deceased. Modest and unassuming in his deportment, he won the love of his associates, while his mind and attainments commanded their respect; as an officer of the navy, he is represented as having fully comprehended his trust and faithfully discharged its duties. His entire devotion to that service, of which he died a member, and in which he spent twelve years of his life, promised a high degree of usefulness to his country. It is with melancholy satisfaction we record, that the calmness and firmness which signalized his life, did not forsake him in his death. He was in the full possession of his faculties until a few hours previous to his dissolution, when he became insensible, and went off like a child asleep. In every social relation, either as friend, as son, as brother, or as husband, it were difficult for any pen to do justice to the merits of the deceased. It is enough to say that their sincere lamentations follow him to his untimely tomb, while theirs is the holy hope that his disembodied spirit delights in that joy and consciousness of a well spent life "which good men take with them from earth to heaven."

To her, the lone partner of his love, in her bereavement, we refrain from all ordinary topics of consolation: she must look for it "Through hope, through love and faith's transcendent dower."

At Caldwell, N. J., 2d June, JACOB KENT, a soldier of the revolution, aged 87. He has had, by two wives, 20 children, (18 of whom are now living with their families,) 121 grand children, 126 great grand children, and 1 great great grand child—making in all 268 direct descendants at the time of his death.—*New ark Eagle.*

## ARMY AND NAVY CHRONICLE.

The irregular appearance of the Army and Navy Chronicle has been the most serious impediment to its success. That irregularity can be obviated for the future by a very simple plan, which is easy of accomplishment and will require but little exertion on the part of its friends.

The editor has on hand one hundred complete sets for the years 1836, 7, 8, and 9, (excepting the month of October, 1839, not yet printed,) which he offers at *half price*, or ten dollars for the four years. If these can be disposed of, it will produce the sum of one thousand dollars, which with current subscriptions will ensure the future punctual appearance of the Chronicle.

There are surely one hundred officers in the army and navy, without counting upon individuals out of the service, public libraries and other institutions, who would be glad to possess the only authentic and permanent record of military and naval events published in this country.

If there be any who wish to secure a set, but whose stations are so remote or uncertain that they cannot conveniently receive and take care of it, they can remit the money, and the set will be laid aside, subject to order at any moment.

Not a week elapses without applications for missing numbers to complete files; and many subscribers have declared that they would not part with theirs on any terms, if they could not be replaced. July 16

OFFICE OF COMMISSARY GENERAL OF SUBSISTENCE,  
Washington, July 1st, 1840.

SEPARATE proposals will be received at this office until the first day of October next, for the delivery of provisions in bulk for the use of the troops of the United States, upon inspection, as follows:

*At New Orleans.*

- 100 barrels of Pork
- 200 barrels of fresh superfine Flour
- 90 bushels of new white field Beans
- 1,500 pounds of good hard Soap
- 40 bushels of good clean dry Salt

*At the public landing, six miles from Fort Towson mouth of the Chienmichi.*

- 400 barrels of Pork
- 800 barrels of fresh superfine Flour
- 360 bushels of new white field Beans
- 6,000 pounds of good hard Soap
- 160 bushels of good clean dry Salt

The whole to be delivered in all the month of April, 1841, and to leave Natchitoches by the 20th February, 1841.

*At Fort Smith, Arkansas.*

- 1,000 barrels of Pork
- 2,000 barrels of fresh superfine Flour
- 900 bushels of new white field Beans
- 15,000 pounds of good hard Soap
- 400 bushels of good clean dry Salt

The whole to be delivered in all the month of May, 1841.

*At St. Louis, or Jefferson Barracks, Missouri.*

- 500 barrels of Pork
- 1,000 barrels of fresh superfine Flour
- 450 bushels of new white field Beans
- 7,500 pounds of good hard Soap
- 200 bushels of good clean dry Salt

*At Fort Crawford, Prairie du Chien, Mississippi river.*

- 200 barrels of Pork
- 400 barrels of fresh superfine Flour
- 180 bushels of new white field Beans
- 3,000 pounds of good hard Soap
- 2,000 pounds of good hard tallow Candles
- 80 bushels of good clean dry Salt

The whole to be delivered by the 1st of June, 1841.

*At Fort Snelling, St. Peters.*

- 400 barrels of Pork
- 800 barrels of fresh superfine Flour
- 360 bushels of new white field Beans
- 6,000 pounds of good hard Soap
- 4,000 pounds of good hard tallow Candles
- 160 bushels of good clean dry Salt

The whole to be delivered by the 15th of June, 1841.

*At Fort Winnebago, on Fox river, at the portage of Fox and Wisconsin rivers.*

- 300 barrels of Pork
- 600 barrels of fresh superfine Flour
- 270 bushels of new white field Beans
- 4,500 pounds of good hard Soap
- 3,000 pounds of good hard tallow Candles
- 120 bushels of good clean dry Salt

The whole to be delivered by the first of June, 1841.

*At Fort Howard, Green Bay.*

- 200 barrels of Pork
- 400 barrels of fresh superfine Flour
- 180 bushels of new white Beans
- 3,000 pounds of good hard Soap
- 2,000 pounds of good hard tallow Candles
- 80 bushels of good clean dry Salt

The whole to be delivered by the first of June, 1841.

*At Fort Brady, Sault de Ste. Marie.*

- 100 barrels of Pork
- 200 barrels of fresh superfine Flour
- 90 bushels of new white field Beans
- 1,500 pounds of good hard Soap
- 1,000 pounds of good hard tallow Candles
- 40 bushels of good clean dry Salt

The whole to be delivered by the first of June, 1841.

*At Hancock Barracks, Houlton, Maine.*

- 400 barrels of Pork
- 800 barrels of fresh superfine flour
- 360 bushels of new white field Beans
- 6,000 pounds of good hard Soap
- 4,000 pounds of good hard tallow Candles
- 160 bushels of good clean dry Salt

The whole to be delivered in December, 1840, and January and February, 1841.

*At New York.*

- 400 barrels of Pork
- 800 barrels of fresh superfine Flour
- 360 bushels of new white field Beans
- 6,000 pounds of good hard Soap
- 160 bushels of good clean dry Salt

*At Baltimore.*

- 200 barrels of Pork
- 400 barrels of fresh superfine Flour
- 180 bushels of new white field Beans
- 3,000 pounds of good hard Soap
- 80 bushels of good clean dry Salt

NOTE.—All bidders are requested to extend the amount of their bids for each article, and exhibit the total amount of each bid.

The periods and quantities of each delivery at those posts where they are not specified, will be one-fourth 1st June, 1st September, 1st December, 1841, and 1st March, 1842.

The hogs of which the pork is packed, to be fattened on corn, and each hog to weigh not less than two hundred pounds, and consist of one hog to each barrel, excluding the feet, legs, ears and snout. Side pieces may be substituted for the hams. The Pork is to be first salted with Turks Island salt, and then carefully packed with the same article, in pieces not exceeding ten pounds each. When the packing has been completed, the contractor must furnish to this office a certificate from the packer, that the Pork has been so salted and packed. The Pork to be contained in seasoned heart of white oak or white ash barrels, full hooped; the Beans in water-tight barrels, and the Soap and Candles in strong boxes of convenient size for transportation. Salt will only be received by measurement of thirty-two quarts to the bushel. The Candles to have cotton wicks. The provisions for Prairie du Chien and St. Peters, must pass St. Louis for their ultimate destination, by the 15th of April, 1841. A failure in this particular will be considered a breach of contract, and the Department will be authorized to purchase to supply these posts.

The provisions will be inspected at the time and place of delivery, and all expenses to be paid by contractors until they are deposited at such store-houses as may be designated by the agents of the Department.

The Commissary General reserves the privilege of increasing or diminishing the quantities, or of dispensing with one or more articles, at any time before entering into contract, and also of increasing or reducing the quantities of each delivery one-third, subsequent to contract, on giving sixty days previous notice.

Bidders, not heretofore contractors, are required to accompany their proposals with evidence of their ability, together with the names of their sureties, whose responsibility must be certified by the District Attorney, or by some person well known to the Government, otherwise their proposals will not be acted on.

Advances cannot be made in any case; and evidence of inspection and full delivery will be required at this office before requisition will be made upon the Treasury for payment, which will be effected in such public money as may be convenient to the points of delivery, the places of purchase, or the residence of the contractors.

No drafts on this office will be accepted or paid under any circumstances.

Each proposal will be sealed in a separate envelope, and marked "Proposals for furnishing Army Subsistence."

GEO. GIBSON, C. G. S.

July 9—t Sept. 20

## ARMY, NAVY, AND MARINE UNIFORMS.

JOHN SMITH, (late of West Point,) would respectfully inform the officers of the army and navy, that he is now enabled to furnish to the different corps their uniform complete, all made of the best materials, and forwarded with despatch.

To prevent errors, the Legislature of New York has authorized him to change his name to JOHN S. FRASER; therefore all letters hereafter will be addressed to JOHN S. FRASER, March 5—t

168 Pearl street, New York.